GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:347
ANSWERED ON:23.12.2015
Drudgery reducing Technologies for Women
Lekhi Smt. Meenakashi

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the technologies available for reducing drudgery of women in housework, manual labour and agriculture;

(b) the measures taken by the Government for the introduction of technologies for use at the ground level;

(c) whether the Government has any scheme which specifically address the problem of drudgery of women; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER FOR MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND EARTH SCIENCES
(DR. HARSH VARDHAN)

(a) to (d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House

STATEMENT AS REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 347 FOR 23/12/2015 REGARDING ""DRUDGERY REDUCING TECHNOLOGIES FOR WOMEN".

(a) Madam, several technologies are available for reducing drudgery for women engaged in housework, manual labour and agriculture. The technologies (primarily improvised tools) available for reducing drudgery in house work are hanging cleaner grader, revolving milking stool & stand, groundnut decorticator, single & double pot trolley for carrying water, walnut cracker, walnut peeler, cotton wick making machine, cow dung collector, fodder collector, butter churner, continuous chapati making machine, continuous vada making machine, cashew nut decorticator, etc. On the manual labour front, Asu making machine for Pochampally sarees , stencil cutting device for hand embroidery design, incense stick making machine, bamboo splint making machine, cotton stripper machine, parboiled paddy and oil seed turner, simple pulse de-husker, etc. are some of the technologies available for reducing the drudgery. Several technologies have also been developed for reducing drudgery of women in agriculture like paddy thresher-cum-winnower, four row paddy drum seeder, trishul weeder, cono weeder, ring cutter for plucking vegetables, handle operated maize sheller, tea leaves plucking kit, eared cutter for jowar harvesting, hand ridger for making furrows, twin wheel hoe, sugarcane bud chipper, groundnut digger, and so on.

(b) National Innovation Foundation− India, an autonomous organization of Department of Science and Technology (DST), identifies technological innovations, including those for reducing drudgery of women, and attempts to diffuse these at the ground level during the biannual "shodh yatras" in different rural areas of the country. Department of Scientific and Industrial Research (DSIR), Ministry of Science & Technology, also disseminate technologies developed by scientific establishments for reduction of drudgery of women. In addition, various Central and State Agricultural Universities facilitate development as well as dissemination of location-specific technologies developed at regional level for reducing the drudgery of women. Directorate of Research for Women in Agriculture, Bhubaneswar and Central Institute for Agricultural Engineering, Bhopal also strive for penetration of technologies developed in agriculture at grassroots level through All India Coordinated Programmes (AICP).

(c) Yes, Madam.

(d) DST is implementing a Scheme "Science and Technology for Women" to promote development and adaptation of location-specific, need-based appropriate technologies besides transfer of proven technologies and demonstration of live technology models which encompass reduction of drudgery of women. A scheme titled "Technology Development and Utilization Programme for Women (TDUPW)" is operational in DSIR for design and development of products for reduction of drudgery and empowerment of women. Indian Council for Agricultural Research also has "All India Coordinated Research Projects" for developing improved agricultural tools/ implements to reduce drudgery of women.

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